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EXAMINER	
PARTHASARATHY, PRAMILA	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2136	

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/833,013	BRUNDAGE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Pramila Parthasarathy	2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 January 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *7 - 29, 31and 32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *7-29,31 and 32* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *10/04 & 1/05*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to request for consideration filed on October 28, 2004. Original application contained Claims 1 – 32. Claims 1 – 6 and 30 were cancelled. No new claims were added. Therefore, presently pending claims are 7 – 29, 31 and 32.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Two initialed copies of the information disclosure statement, dated 10/28/2004 and 1/24/2005 are attached to this office action by the examiner.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on October 28, 2004, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the following reasons:

Applicant argued that the cited prior arts (CPA) [DeLorme et al. U.S. Patent number 5,848,373, hereinafter "DeLorme" and Meyer et al. U.S. Patent number 6,748,362, hereinafter "Meyer"] do not teach, suggest or disclose, "machine-capturing image data of the map itself and obtaining information there

from", "steganographically embedded location information in a map, and using this steganographically embedded map to help identify a location".

DeLorme teaches and describes a computer aided map location system (CAMLS) provides correlation and coordination of spatially related data between a computer (PDA/PC/EC) and a set of printed maps typically printed on paper. The PDA/PC/EC provides access to at least one database and is programmed to display the location information or a radio information receiver such as GPS receiver (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38).

Meyer teaches a process for steganographically embedding images (digital data) and the use of digital watermarking with encoding techniques (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61).

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, motivation to combine the invention of Meyer with DeLorme comes from the need for providing protection for information that is in

digital format. DeLorme provide a discussion of the needed embedding embedded applications where the need for security against theft and unauthorized access, see DeLorme column 17 lines 39 – 62 and Column 26 lines 44 – 58). It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Meyer with DeLorme for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and because Meyer provides details of how to embed digital data (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61).

Regarding independent Claims 7, 11, 12 and 24, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), an input device to capture an image of at least a portion of the respective map area; memory including executable software instructions stored therein, the instructions to extract the location information from the at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image and the location information is compared to the GPS data to indicate the correlation of the apparatus location and the captured watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme further discloses comparing the location information to a physical

location and providing feedback to correlate the location information (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 64). Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Please refer to the above reasoning for combining the two references.

Regarding amended independent Claims 14 and 20, DeLorme teaches and describes capturing an image of a sign (DeLorme Column 34 lines 30 – 58, Column 42 lines 52 – 58 and Column 44 lines 3 – 9). DeLorme further teaches that the images (symbols, name or sign) are processed and are displayed at specific location (DeLorme Column 37 lines 17 – 31). Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). DeLorme further discloses comparing the location information to a physical location and providing feedback to correlate the location information (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 64). Please refer to the above reasoning for combining the two references.

Applicant clearly has failed to explicitly identify specific claim limitations, which would define a patentable distinction over prior arts. Therefore, the examiner respectfully asserts that CPA does teach or suggest the subject matter broadly recited in independent claims 7, 10, 11, 12, 14, 20, 24, 25, 26 and 31. Dependent claims 8, 9, 13, 15 – 19, 21 – 23, 27 – 29 and 32 are also rejected at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims and by other reason set forth in this office action.

Accordingly, the rejection for the pending Claims 7 – 29, 31 and 32 is respectfully maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 7 – 29, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLorme et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,848,373 hereinafter "DeLorme") in view of Meyer et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,748,362 hereinafter "Meyer").

Regarding Claim 7, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system receiver to determine a location of said apparatus; an input device to capture an image of at least a portion of the respective map area; memory including executable software instructions stored therein, the instructions to extract the location information from the at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image of at least a portion of the respective map area, and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information; electronic processing circuitry to execute the software instructions; and an output device to indicate the correlation of the apparatus location and the captured watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 10, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of making a representation of a geographical area map comprising:

dividing a representation of a geographical area into a plurality of areas (DeLorme Column 1 line 9 – Column 2 line 15); and

steganographically encoding plural-bit location data within each of the plurality of areas, wherein the location data is unique per each of the plurality of areas (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the location data is steganographically encoding location data. However, Meyer discloses a system for steganographically encoding for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 3, 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 19 – 61), the encoding process is done by using steganographic techniques encoding plural bit (image) data wherein the location data is unique ("The selection of the appropriate locations ...in the media file"). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer to provide efficient representation of digital data and to enable additional benefits of fast encoding/decoding DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 11, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of navigating with a map embedded with digital watermarks comprising:

reading a digital watermark from the map, the digital watermark including location information which uniquely identifies the map in which the digital watermark is embedded in; comparing the location information to a physical location; and providing feedback to correlate the location information and the physical location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark to extract the digital watermark from the map. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 12, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of correlating a physical location to a map location, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective area, the method comprising:

extracting the location information from the watermark at the map location; comparing the extracted location information to global positioning system (GPS) received coordinates of the physical location; and providing feedback based on the comparison of the physical location and the map location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark to extract the digital watermark from the map. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Meyer also teaches extracting the digitally watermarked data (Meyer Column 10 lines 33 – 41). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme

and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 14, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 20, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising:

capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26

– Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38). DeLorme does not explicitly teach to extracting a digital watermark from the captured image and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data. However, Meyer discloses a system for extracting a digital watermark from the image (media file) and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 7 lines 46 – 61 and Column 10 lines 33 – 43). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for extracting digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme and then extracting digitally watermarked data as taught by Meyer for processing of location information.

Regarding Claim 24, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded distal watermark including location information for the respective map area, said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system that determines location of said apparatus (DeLorme Fig.1, 2 and Column 21 lines 19 – 59);

an input to receive optical scan data corresponding to at least a portion of the respective map area; memory including executable software instructions stored therein, the instructions to extract the location information from the optical

scan data of at least a portion of the respective map area, and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information; electronic processing circuitry to process the software instructions; and an output to indicate a correlation of the apparatus location and the watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 25, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the digital watermarks including location information for respective map locations, said apparatus comprising:

a global positioning system receiving means for determining a physical location of said apparatus; input means for inputting data corresponding to at least a portion of the respective map area; processing means for extracting the location information from the input data and for correlating the physical location

with the extracted location information; and output means for outputting an indication of the relative correlation between the apparatus location and the watermark location information (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that at least one embedded digital watermark from the captured image and to correlate the location of the apparatus with the extracted location information. However, Meyer discloses a system for extracting location information from the image data (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65, Column 7 lines 46 – 61 and Column 10 lines 33 – 43). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 26, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising:

accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32) ;

capturing a portion of a digitally watermarked map by the input device, the portion including at least one watermark comprising map location information; in the handheld computing device, determining which of the retrieved subset

database information corresponds to the map location information; and providing the corresponding retrieved subset database information as feedback (DeLorme Fig.3 – 7; Column 19 line 41 – Column 20 line 7 and Column 25 line 51 – Column 26 line 43). DeLorme does not explicitly teach that capturing a portion of digitally watermarked map, the portion including at least one watermark comprising map location information. However, Meyer discloses a system for capturing a portion of digitally watermarked image by the input device, the portion including at least one watermark comprising location information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with Meyer for embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Regarding Claim 31, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising: inputting a map location to a computing device (Fig. 1 – 5 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 22 line 22), wherein the map includes a plurality of digital watermarks embedded therein, and wherein said inputting a map location to a computer device comprises reading at least one of the plurality of digital watermarks, the watermark comprising the map location (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38);

determining a current location (DeLorme Column 23 lines 1 – 4);

in the computing device, determining a relationship between the input map location and the current location (DeLorme Column 23 lines 1 – 9); and

providing directions from the current location to the map location (Column 23 lines 1 – 20).

DeLorme does not explicitly teach that the area comprises at least one embedded digital watermark. However, Meyer discloses a system for embedding digital data for enabling user decoding of information (Meyer Fig. 4; Column 4 lines 31 – 65 and Column 7 lines 46 – 61), the encoding process is done by using digital watermarking followed by embedding the digitally watermarked data. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use the teachings of DeLorme in conjunction with embedded digital watermarking to provide efficient representation of digital data and pre-paid media data as suggested by DeLorme.

Claim 8 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein said apparatus is a handheld apparatus (DeLorme Column 2 lines 43 – 58; Column 19 lines 1 – 55; Column 49 lines 6 – 22 and Column 56 lines 16 – 25).

Claim 9 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes an apparatus to read digital watermarks embedded within a map, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the output device provides one of an LED indication, arrow indication, audio indication, grid indication, and visual display (DeLorme Column 5 lines 50 – 54; Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 15 lines 5 – 31).

Claim 15 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein in the unique identifier identifies the location of the sign (DeLorme Column 36 lines 36 – 54).

Claim 16 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59

and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the unique identifier conveys a message (DeLorme Column 16 lines 46 – 62).

Claim 18 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 14. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the unique identifier comprises an index for a database, the database comprising data records (DeLorme Column 11 line 6 – Column 12 line 11).

Claim 21 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 20. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), further comprising interrogating a database with the plural-bit data to locate a corresponding web page address (DeLorme Column 6 lines 43 – 61 and Column 24 lines 11 – 56).

Claim 23 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 20. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an

image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), further comprising accessing a file associated with the plural-bit data, the file including one of audio, video, and text data (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 6 and Column 5 lines 50 – 55).

Claim 27 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32), further comprising wirelessly accessing the database (DeLorme Column 24 lines 1 – 47).

Claim 28 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32), wherein the database information includes at least one of road directions, restaurant information, store or restaurant promotions, coupons, tourist information, historical information, zoo information, amusement

park information, rest-stop information, road conditions, road work information, and detour information (DeLorme Column 51 line 26 – Column 52 line 43 and Column 54 lines 22 – 33).

Claim 29 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of accessing a database comprising information; retrieving a subset of the database information; storing the retrieved subset of database information in a handheld computing device, the handheld device including an input device (DeLorme Column 7 line 53 – Column 11 line 32), wherein the feedback comprises at least one of usual feedback, audible feedback, text feedback, graphical user interface feedback, laser pointer illumination and a printed document . (DeLorme Column 4 lines 1 – 6; Column 5 lines 50 – 55; Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 15 lines 5 – 31).

Claim 6 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 5. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a map divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective map area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein at least one embedded digital watermark includes an orientation signal (DeLorme Column 12 lines 40 – 60 and Column 13 lines 14 – 30).

Claim 13 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 12. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method of correlating a physical location to a map location, the map being divided into a plurality of areas, with each area comprising at least one embedded digital watermark including location information for the respective area (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the location information comprises an index, and said method further comprises indexing a database with the index to identify location information (DeLorme Column 11 line 6 – Column 12 line 11 and Column 43 lines 12 – 25).

Claim 17 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 16. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein the message comprises a speed limit, directions, location of an establishment, and seating information (DeLorme Column 12 line 40 – Column 13 line 30).

Claim 19 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 18. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a sign having plural bit data encoded thereon in the form of a digital watermark, the data comprising a unique identifier (DeLorme

Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 10 lines 4 – 59 and Column 11 lines 6 – 19), wherein a data record comprises at least one of a speed limit, directions, location of an establishment, Java applets, lodging vacancy, menu, hours of operation, tourist information, HTML code, URL page, IP address, and seating information (DeLorme Column 12 lines 40 – 60).

Claim 22 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 21. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of capturing an image of a sign; extracting a digital watermark from the captured image, the watermark including plural-bit data; and outputting a response in accordance with the plural-bit data (DeLorme Fig. 1 – 6; Column 4 lines 1 – 38; Column 6 lines 21 – 42; Column 11 lines 6 – 19; Column 14 line 26 – Column 15 line 23; Column 23 lines 1 - 16 and Column 60 line 61 – Column 61 line 38), wherein the response comprises displaying the web page associated with title web page address (DeLorme Column 6 lines 43 – 61 and Column 24 lines 11 – 56).

Claim 32 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 31. Furthermore, DeLorme teaches and describes a method comprising the steps of inputting a map location to a computing device (Fig. 1 – 5 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 22 line 22), wherein said determining a current location comprises receiving GPS signals to determine the current location (DeLorme Column 7 line 42 – Column 8 line 15 and Column 19 line 41 – Column 21 line 40).

Conclusion

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pramila Parthasarathy whose telephone number is 571-272-3866. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00a.m. To 5:00p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-232-3795.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Pramila Parthasarathy
February 15, 2005.

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